



Creating Low-cost, Efficient and Net-zero Emissions Resilient (CLEANER) Buildings Act

Section-By-Section

Section 1: Short Title; Table of Contents.

This section establishes the bill's title as the "Creating Low-cost, Efficient and Net-zero Emissions Resilient Buildings Act or CLEANER Buildings Act."

Section 2: National Model Building Performance Standards Initiative.

This section directs the EPA Administrator, in coordination with the Secretary of Energy, to establish a national model building performance standards initiative that assists state and local governments in the development and implementation of building performance standards and achieves progress towards a 50 to 52 percent reduction from 2005 levels in economy-wide net green-house gas emissions by 2030.

Section 3: National Model Building Performance Standards.

This section directs the EPA Administrator, in coordination with the Secretary of Energy, to develop national model building performance standards that may be replicated and adopted by state and local governments. The Administrator is tasked with developing standards that identify the types of building properties, sizes and occupancy rates that will be covered under the standards; establish metrics and calculations for short-term and long-term standards; develop a standardized energy and water rating system; and recommend exemptions or compliance extensions for certain covered properties that demonstrate hardship. The Administrator may periodically review the standards and provide updates to the standards that would result in significant energy and water savings and greenhouse gas emissions.

Section 4: FEDERAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT.

This section directs the Administrator to provide technical and financial assistance to state and local governments that adopt building performance standards including financial assistance to establish building performance standards that are at least as stringent as the national model standards, training, education and outreach assistance, and agency resources on existing federal programs that can be leveraged by building owners to meet performance standards.

Section 5: Progress Reports.

This section directs the Administrator to provide a progress report of the National Building Performance Standards program to Congress two years after the date of enactment and a public report on state and local governments that receive support provided under the bill on a publicly accessible website.

Section 6: Performance Standard Requirement for Existing Federal Buildings.

This section requires that the Administrator prescribe regulations and requirements for the application of national model building performance standards developed in section 3 existing Federal buildings, including the Capitol and congressional buildings and facilities. It also establishes strong labor standards in any construction that may occur to federal buildings to comply with the national model building performance standards.

Section 7: Authorization of Appropriations.

This section authorizes appropriations necessary to carry out each section of the Act for years 2023 through 2027:

- \$11,000,000 for sections 2 and 3;
- \$5,000,000 for section 4(a), technical assistance;
- \$50,000,000 for section 4(b), financial assistance;
- \$5,000,000 for section 6, application to existing federal buildings.

Section 8: Definitions.

This section defines terms used in this Act.